



**TOWN OF MANSFIELD/MANSFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE
Tuesday, November 10, 2009
Mansfield Town Hall
Council Chambers**

MINUTES

Present: Mark Boyer, Fred Baruzzi, Mary Feathers, and Matthew Hart

Absent: Betsy Paterson and Anne Willenborg

Staff: Bill Hammon, Cherie Trahan, Jaime Russell, Debra Adamczyk,
Jeff Cryan, and Chris Kueffner

Guest: Rick Lawrence of Lawrence Associates, Jim Barrett of DRA and
Brandon Handfield of Anchor Engineering

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Ms. Feathers called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

2. Meeting Minutes

The minutes of October 14, 2009 were approved.

3. Opportunity for the public to address the Committee

No Comment

4. MMS Fuel Conversion Project

Mr. Hammon reported that with the additional State funding, change orders were signed to complete the alternates so the project will be completed as designed. It will take approximately 15 weeks to complete the alternatives. Overall school staff has said they are happy with the new system. Mr. Russell pointed out that there is a tremendous difference because the new system is quieter and there is more space in most classrooms because of the design.

5. Staff Report

Brandon Handfield of Anchor Engineering provided an update on the septic testing. Mr. Handfield provided a draft copy of Anchor Engineering's report. In summary, Anchor Engineering opinion is after reviewing all test data, it appears that the site will be able to sustain a septic system that will accommodate a one school option that could hold 800 students. Jennifer Perry of DEP will be provided a copy of the draft report so she can review.

Rick Lawrence of Lawrence Associates and Jim Barrett of DRA provided a presentation showing "test fits" of how a one school option could fit on the Southeast School property. According to their test fits, preliminary results show the original building could be kept on the site in addition to the one school option. Included in the presentation were different type of building designs, a 2 wing plan with 2 levels and a Courtyard plan with 2 levels. Approximate sizes of classrooms will be larger than what the current schools have. Discussion took place about the different designs and most economic type of designs.

6. Next Steps

Town Council would like to reschedule the joint meeting with the Mansfield Board of Education until December 14, 2009. Ms. Feathers stated that the committee will need to prepare for their presentation. Included in the presentation should be educational benefits, educational differences, educational advantages and disadvantages, ultimately compare and contrast the one school option vs. keeping the 3 schools in place. Mr. Hammon will explore the costs associated with keeping the other school buildings which will include energy costs. Mr. Kueffner stated that it is important to be able to show what the actual expenses are for running 3 schools vs. the one school option. What the expenses will be to keep renovating and repairing the existing buildings. He also stated that residents need to envision what the potential options are for the existing buildings. (Senior center, preschool, businesses, senior housing, daycare facilities.) At the conclusion of the joint meeting, the committee will need to know what direction the Council and Board would like them to take.

7. Other

Ms. Feathers stated that she will no longer be Chairman of the Board of Education as of the next Board of Education meeting. The new Chairman of the Board will take her place on the committee. She would like to be a citizen member on the committee. Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Boyer, to make the recommendation to Town Council for Ms. Feathers to remain on the School Building Committee as a citizen.

Next meeting will be held Wednesday December 9, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Ducharme